



Pterogyne nitens

Family: Leguminosae

Amendoim

Viraro

Other Common Names: Amendoim, Ibiraro, Pau fava (Brazil), Guiaro, Ibiraro, Viraro, (Argentina).

Distribution: Argentina, southern Paraguay, and Brazil; scattered occurrence.

The Tree: Attains a maximum height of over 100 ft but more commonly not over 75 ft with a well formed trunk, diameter 2 to 3 ft, exceptionally 4 ft.

The Wood:

General Characteristics: Heartwood reddish brown suggesting mahogany often with darker striping; not sharply demarcated from the yellowish-brown sapwood. Luster medium to high; texture medium; grain often roey; without distinctive odor or taste.

Weight: Basic specific gravity (oven dry weight/green volume) 0.66; air-dry density 50 pcf.

Mechanical Properties: (2-cm standard)

Moisture content (%)	Bending strength (Psi)	Modulus of elasticity (1,000 psi)	Maximum crushing strength (Psi)
Green (30)	11,900	1,610	5,650
15%	16,900	NA	7,660

Janka side hardness for green material 1,340 lb. Amsler toughness 354 in.-lb. at 15% moisture content (2-cm specimen).

Drying and Shrinkage: No data available on drying characteristics or on kiln schedules. Shrinkage green to oven dry: radial 3.4%; tangential 6.0%; volumetric 10.0%. Reported to hold its place well after manufacture.

Working Properties: Rather easily worked and finishing very smoothly.

Durability: Reported to be fairly durable.

Preservation: No information available.

Uses: Fine furniture and cabinet work, turnery, interior trim, cooperage, and steam bent work.

Additional Reading: (30), (56), (69)

- 30. Instituto de Pesquisas Tecnologicas. 1956. Tabelas de resultados obtidos para madeiras nacionais. Bol. Inst. Pesqu. tec. Sao Paulo No. 31.
- 56. Record, S. J., and R. W. Hess. 1949. Timbers of the new world. Yale University Press, New Haven, Conn.
- 69. Tortorelli, L. A. 1956. Maderas y bosques argentinos. Editorial Acme S.A.C.I. Maipu 92, Buenos Aires.

From: Chudnoff, Martin. 1984. Tropical Timbers of the World. USDA Forest Service. Ag. Handbook No. 607.